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**Wednesday, Sept. 24, 1997**  
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## Rossville-Alvin board approves five-step drug testing policy

ROSSVILLE—Non-certified employees will be the first to undergo random drug testing under a policy approved by the Rossville-Alvin school board Monday.

The board approved a five-step policy for testing administrators, secretaries, bookkeepers and students.

The first step, testing non-certified employees, will begin in December, said Superintendent Phil Smith.

Students will be tested beginning in January, when random tests will be done on 7.5 percent of student athletes.

The remaining three phases - testing driver's education students, students driving on school property and students involved in extra-curricular activities, will be added later, Smith said. "We know (the first) two are legal," Smith said. The other three "are on a little less solid legal ground."

Smith predicted that driver's education students could begin testing in October. Students driving to school are not expected to be tested until October 1999, followed

by testing in students in extra-curricular activities in 18 months to two years.

Teachers may be added to the list of those tested if the district education association agrees. Testing is not currently part of the district's contract with teachers, Smith said, adding teachers may volunteer or the issue will be negotiated when the current contract expires next August.

The program is expected to cost about \$3,500 annually, or \$35 per test, a cost Smith said will drop as more districts begin drug testing.

Screening will be done for marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, PCP, benzodrenes and opiates, Smith said. Those who refuse to be tested will be barred from the category in which they were tested.

For example, an athlete who refuses - or tests positive - would be banned only from athletics. "It can only affect things they were randomly tested for," Smith said. "We can't kick them out of school."

## ★ Police News ★

**Russell Borders**, 725 N. Market, reported Monday that someone took the rear license plate, HGN594, from his vehicle while it was parked at 604 W. Maple.

A **bicycle reported stolen** Sept. 12 was recovered Monday and returned to Titia Cole.

**John Jackson**, 301 S. Market, reported Monday that three unidentified men jumped from a vehicle and beat him. The driver also pointed a pistol at him.

**Avery A. Haas**, 24, of 120 E. Attica, Rossville, was arrested at 11:33 p.m. Monday by Rossville police. Haas, wanted on a Vermilion County traffic warrant, was released on \$95 cash bond.

**Juan Colunga**, 38, of 323 N. Sixth Ave., was arrested at 12:14 a.m. Tuesday on two Vermilion County

warrants. Colunga, arrested when he tried to post bond for Haas, was released on \$1,300 cash bond.

## In the Hospital

**Hoopeston Community Memorial Hospital  
Sept. 22, 1997**

**Admitted:** none.

**Discharged:** Pauline Prickett, Hoopeston.

## Weather

Partly sunny today. High 64. Tonight, partly cloudy. Low 46. Tomorrow, partly sunny. High near 74, low near 54.

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